

TOWN OF WESTON

P.O. BOX 98

WESTON, VT 05161

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 11th, 2022 at 7:30 PM

- 1. Changes or Additions to the Agenda:** Jim Linville notes that #5 on the agenda will be covered in executive session at the end of the meeting. Jim also notes that for future meetings the reviewing of minutes should be at the beginning of the meeting. Lastly Jim Linville says that the 911 address will be covered with Almon Crandall.
- 2. Public Comment:** Scott MacDowell begins by saying that he lives part time in Weston and would like to make a dog complaint. The dog in question attacks other dog when they walk by, never people but many residents feel this dog is very dog aggressive. He explains that he has spoken with Kim Seymour and Deb Moser and there has been no change. Natalie Boston explains that the town has been trying to get someone to fill the animal control position. The Selectboard had appointed Syd Straw but she had not sent back her acceptance letter. Natalie also notes that she spoke with her and gave her all of the information on this particular dog and she said that she would look into it. Scott says that she had called him but never said that she was animal control. Annie Fuji'i says that she thinks she knows whose dog it was and would talk to her. Natalie Boston will also follow up with Syd Straw. Andrew Harper says he is there on behalf of the Weston Conservation Commission, they have been looking at class 4 roads to trails. The town retains the trails right of way, interested in minimum work to maintain (dead falls, not letting it get washed out). Discussion on trails they are looking at. Charles Goodwin notes that in the agenda the items should be more specific in the future.
- 3. Road Forman Almon Crandall:** Almon Crandall begins by saying that one of the trucks broke down tonight, have parts to pick up and order. Almon notes that parts are becoming harder to come by so stocking some items to have on hand. Almon continues to say the road crew had a bit of a scare, 1 member tested positive for Covid but he is back now.

911 address: Almon says they will follow the Landgrove System, he then explains the changes. He spoke with one of the land owners and he is fine with the change. Almon says he will inform dispatch and he wrote a letter to the residents explaining the change and the reason.

Almon Crandall also notes that the cost to build the generator stand will be under

\$1,000 if done at the town garage. Jim Linville notes that there are possible setback issues.

4. **Recognition for Deb Moser:** Jim Linville begins by saying that he would like to make a motion thanking Deb Moser for her outstanding service. Jim suggests buying her and her husband a dinner out not to exceed a couple hundred dollars. Charles Goodwin asks what was done when the previous administrative assistant retired, recalling they did a pool on a personal basis as citizens. Jim says he will run the fund for Deb. Charles Goodwin 2nd. Unanimously Approved.
5. **Review preliminary Survey of Town Office and Annex properties:** Will be discussed in executive session.
6. **The Little School Electrical and Generator Report:** Jim Linville notes that the fire marshal said that the generator will need to be 5 feet away from the building but there is a setback issue. There is 11 feet between The Little School and the property line, he says he needs to talk to Will Goodwin about it. Natalie Boston notes that the electrician and Green Mountain Power said they would be coming Monday the 17th while theres no school to do the work.
7. **The Little School Water Signature:** Discussion on the new contract. Jim Linville moves to sign, Charles Goodwin 2nd. Unanimously Approved.
8. **Animal Control/ Constable:** Annie Fuji'i begins asking about finding a back up. Pat Salo is brought up and Natalie Boston will reach out to him and get a quote on his fee.
9. **911 Address for Jaquith Road:** Covered Earlier
10. **Covid: N95 Distribution or testing site options:** Natalie Boston explains that she had seen how towns in the area have been doing test and mask distributions so she was curious if the Residents would be interested in/benefit from something similar. She had a long conversation with Regina Downer though and came to the conclusion that at home tests are not the answer (People are not doing the tests properly and no one is reporting results to anyone) but a mask distribution or a pop up testing site would be more beneficial. Regina had said that she had a contact at the Vermont Department of health she was going to reach out to to see what options there may be.
11. **Tax Sale:** Charles Goodwin begins saying that Kevin Otoule (the Town representative) should be at the tax sale, explains that if it stays in the current property owners name it will continue to accrue penalties. The town needs to participate in the sale, notes that if the town owns it they can control it. Jim Linville makes a motion to have a representative at the tax sale to protect the town and offer the current total of delinquent taxes and interest, Charles Goodwin 2nd. Unanimously approved.
12. **Riverside Purchase:** Jim Linville says the sale happened, no problems, demolition is preceding and would like to thank attorney Lexi Young who handled at no charge.

Wes Ameden dug test sites and they will be able to dig a well and septic so the Library will be set for water and a bathroom.

13. **2021 Audit:** Jim Linville makes a motion to change the accounting process from the current Modified accrual basis to Cash basis effective the calendar year ending December 31st 2021, and that we accept the audit proposal from Sullivan Powers for the 2021 Audit. Annie Fuji'i 2nd. Approved unanimously.
14. **Vermont Retail and Grocers Association Mask Mandate Request:** Charles Goodwin moves to refrain from a mask mandate, as the town has no authority to enforce, Denis Benson 2nd. Approved Unanimously.
15. **Delinquent Tax Report:** The Selectboard read and reviewed the Delinquent tax report.
16. **Review and Approve Minutes:** Charles Goodwin moves to approve the minutes from 12/11/2021, Jim Linville 2nd. Unanimously Approved
Jim Linville moves to approve the minutes from 1/4/2022, Charles Goodwin 2nd, Unanimously Approved
Annie Fuji'i moves to approve the minutes from 1/5/2022, Charles Goodwin 2nd. Unanimously Approved
17. **SO #1 Payroll/ SO #1 Vendors:** Charles Goodwin moves to accept SO #1 Payroll for the amount of \$8,543.16, Jim Linville 2nd. Unanimously Approved
Annie Fuji'i moves to accept SO#1 Vendors for the amount of \$20,068.35, Charles Goodwin 2nd. Unanimously Approved
18. **Old/New Business:** Jim Linville has the final copy of the Selectboard Report, all signed and left for Kim Seymour.
Annie Fuji'i notes there is business pending on Mill Lane and may be snow removal issues that can be taken up at a later date.
Kim Seymour asks the Selectboard to review the Appointed and Elected officers to see if there are any errors before they go in the report.
Natalie Boston notes that they will need to get someone to rewrite the LHMP for 2022, had been handled by the previous Emergency Management Director but that position is still vacant.
Jim Linville moves to go into executive session in regards to 1VSA 313-2 (Review Preliminary Survey of Town Office and Annex Properties), as well as Personnel 1VSA 313 (a)(2)
Into executive session at 8:36 PM
Out of Executive session at 9:20 PM. **No motions or actions taken.**
Charles Goodwin Moves to adjourn, Jim Linville 2nd. Unanimously Approved.